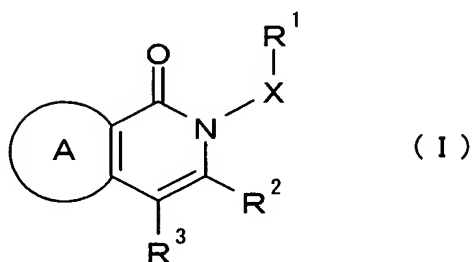


ABSTRACT

A compound represented by the formula (I):



5 wherein ring A represents an aromatic ring; X represents a
 bond, oxygen, NR^4 (R^4 represents hydrogen, a hydrocarbon
 group, or a heterocyclic group), or alkylene; R^1 represents
 a hydrocarbon group, or a heterocyclic group; R^2 represents
 - COYR^5 (Y represents a bond, alkylene, oxygen, sulfur, or
 10 NR^6 (R^6 represents hydrogen, a hydrocarbon group, or a
 heterocyclic group), and R^5 represents a hydrocarbon group,
 or a heterocyclic group), a hydrocarbon group, or a
 heterocyclic group; and R^3 represents a hydrocarbon group,
 a heterocyclic group, optionally substituted hydroxy,
 15 optionally substituted amino, or $-\text{S}(\text{O})_n\text{R}^7$ (R^7 represents a
 hydrocarbon group, or a heterocyclic group, and n is 0 to
 2), a salt of the compound, or a prodrug or either is
 useful as an agent for modulating the function of an RFRP
 receptor.